UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/205
22 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of a Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic, issued on 21 February 1994 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar T. ALIYEV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

[Original: Russian]

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic wishes to draw attention to a dangerous turn of events in the region caused by a fresh escalation of aggression by the Republic of Armenia against the Azerbaijani Republic.

The Republic of Armenia is not desisting from its efforts to occupy more territory in the Azerbaijani Republic, and is expanding its military presence in the occupied Nagorny Karabakh region. Seeking to conceal its true goal of annexing the occupied territories, the Republic of Armenia has recently stepped up its campaign of propaganda in order to misinform the world community.

To that end, all possible means are being used to discredit the peace policy of Azerbaijan, which is aimed exclusively at eliminating, as soon as possible, the consequences of the aggression by the Republic of Armenia, as a prerequisite for finding a comprehensive solution to the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict.

Refuting the insinuations in the propaganda disseminated by the Republic of Armenia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declares that Azerbaijan welcomes the peace initiatives of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and hopes that the forthcoming visit to this region by the new Chairman of the CSCE Peace Conference in Minsk will represent a significant step towards the attainment of a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict between the Republic of Armenia and the Azerbaijani Republic.

The Azerbaijani leadership has repeatedly presented initiatives for concluding a cease-fire agreement and has systematically supported such initiatives by international organizations and various States, which should lead to a cessation of hostilities. These peaceful intentions by the Azerbaijani leadership have been single-mindedly and consistently frustrated by the Republic of Armenia, which is seeking a further escalation of military tension in the region, with the aim of realizing its crazy dream of establishing a "Greater Armenia".

Azerbaijan therefore again appeals to the world community and international organizations to condemn emphatically the policy of aggression pursued by the Republic of Armenia, a policy that is dooming the Azerbaijani people to further sacrifice and suffering.

21 February 1994